



REMARKS

Claims 1 to 26 are pending in this application. The Examiner has rejected all claims as indefinite. Claims 1, 14 and 25 have been amended herein to state that the composition (claims 1 and 14) or product (claim 25) is at least substantially transparent. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification, for example, on page 3, lines 17-19 and on page 4, lines 5-6. Accordingly, no new matter is introduced by the amendment and Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered.

Regarding the Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Hamlin for the courtesy and time extended in interviewing this case with Applicant's attorney by telephone on 2 November 2001. The pending rejections were discussed along with the present amendment to the claims. It was agreed that the amendment herein would most likely overcome the pending rejections.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1 to 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection.

The Examiner states that most substantially opaque or non-transparent dyes or paints that ablate electrical energy would inherently block some wavelengths of electromagnetic waves. Applicants have clarified claims 1, 14 and 25 by reciting that the composition, or product, is at least substantially transparent. Applicant's submit that the

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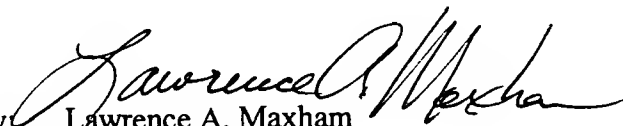
specification discloses that the composition is transparent or substantially transparent so as to allow the passage of a sufficient amount of light to allow a person looking through the material to view objects under normal working conditions. (See for example, page 3, lines 17-19, page 4, lines 5-6). Therefore the "at least substantially transparent" limitation is in accordance with the specification. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, are clear and definite and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and arguments, Applicants believe that all pending claims in this application are allowable. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and early allowance of the application are hereby requested. Should any issues remain unresolved, Mr. Hamlin is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising:

2 a first dye that blocks electromagnetic waves in at least one of the following regions:

visible and infrared; and

4 a substrate material, the substrate material and the first dye being chosen and blended in proportion so that the composition is at least substantially transparent and ablates upon impact of
6 electric energy.

14. (Twice Amended) A composition resistant to an electric-arc comprising:

2 an infrared/optical dye; and

a substrate material, the infrared/optical dye and substrate material being chosen and

4 blended in proportion so that the composition is at least substantially transparent, blocks electromagnetic waves and ablates when struck by radiation from an electric arc.

25. (Twice Amended) A process for producing an electric-arc resistant composition comprising:

blending an infrared/optical dye with a substrate material; and

subjecting the blend to curing conditions,

wherein the product is at least substantially transparent.

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